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EDITORIAL.

It is always a pleasure to note a graceful expression of appreciation of long and faithful endeavor to promote our science—doubly so when this service has been given in a singularly quiet and modest way, without any apparent realization of its true merits.

At a recent alumni dinner of the State University of Iowa, the former students of Professor Samuel Calvin, to the number of over two thousand, united in the commemoration of the completion of his thirtieth year as professor in that institution. The recognition took the form of a costly silver loving-cup, designed especially for the purpose of symbolizing the scientific achievements of the recipient. The cup is a classic Greek vase, sixteen inches in height, and stands on a base of serpentine five inches high. It is adorned with casts taken directly from fossils, with a drainage map of Iowa, with crossed geological hammers, a microscope, and the more conventional spray of laurel, owl of wisdom, and torch of learning—all in relief. One side bears an appropriate inscription in raised letters.

Professor Calvin was elected to the chair of natural history in Iowa's university thirty years ago. The chair has since been subdivided into four distinct departments, Professor Calvin retaining the department of geology. As well known to the profession, he has been state geologist of Iowa during the last twelve years, and an admirable series of reports is appearing under his administration.